

The Trinity

What is the Trinity ?

The word **“Trinity”** is used in Christianity to identify the unique way in which GOD presents Himself to humans in the Bible.

1. YOU CANNOT find the word **“Trinity”** in the Bible in any language!
2. YOU CANNOT find a passage in the Bible where God explains the **“Trinity”**.

The word **“Trinity”** is an English version of the **Latin** word **trinitas** which means **threefold**.

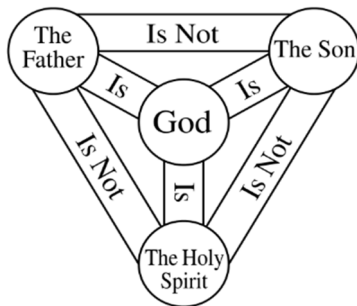
We use the word **“TRINITY”** to express how GOD chose to present Himself to all humanity as

One GOD with THREE PARTS.

Each part is completely GOD but each part **reveals Himself to humanity as a separate Person.**

The Threefold Persons of God!

One God revealed to humans in three Persons!



*By the 12th Century A.D., Christianity used the **Shield of the Trinity** (above) to explain how GOD presents Himself throughout the pages of the Bible.*

Faith or Fact

You should never believe a specific teaching by faith alone without understanding the facts.

It is the intent of this study to present the facts that will solidify a faith in the God Who chose to reveal Himself to all of humanity in three Persons.

That faith is called Christianity!

Faiths in the World

One Difference Among the Five Major Faiths that Exist in the World

Judaism	Buddhism	Hinduism	Islam	Christianity
Judaism holds that Jesus is a false prophet.	Buddhism holds that Jesus was a good human being.	Hinduism holds that Jesus was just one of the periodic incarnations of their god Vishnu.	Islam holds that Jesus was a prophet, but not God.	Christianity holds that Christ Jesus is God.
No "Trinity"	No "Trinity"	No "Trinity"	No "Trinity"	"Trinity"

Facts About the "Trinity"

God Talks About His Threefold Nature in the Creation Story

Genesis 1:¹ In the beginning **God** created the heavens and the earth.

In this first sentence of the Bible, God gives us His name and makes a factual statement that He created the heavens and the earth. Here, "God" is the Hebrew *Elohim* (אֱלֹהִים). Even though it is a plural masculine noun in Hebrew, in the Bible it is singular. He is One God!

Genesis 1:² And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the **Spirit of God** was moving over the surface of the waters.

In the second sentence of the Bible, God gives the name of One of His Persons – the Spirit of God. Here, "Spirit" is the Hebrew *Ruach* (רוּחַ), and it refers to the breath or wind that comes from God. He is One God "moving over the surface of the waters" and He calls that breath the Spirit of God.

Genesis 1:²⁶ Then God said, "Let **Us** make man in **Our** image, according to **Our** likeness; and let them rule over the fish of the sea and over the birds of the sky and over the cattle and over all the earth, and over every creeping thing that creeps on the earth."

In the twenty-sixth sentence of the Bible, God speaks of Himself with the words "Us" and "Our". Here, God indicates that He is singular; however, He is operating as more than One. Just twenty-six sentences into the Bible, God has not revealed the number represented by the "Us" and "Our", nor does He explain this reference. [IN THE BIBLE, GOD SIMPLY PRESENTS WHO HE IS AND HOW HE OPERATES WITHOUT EXPLANATION.](#)

Genesis 2:⁴ This is the account of the heavens and the earth when they were created, in the day that the **LORD God** made earth and heaven.

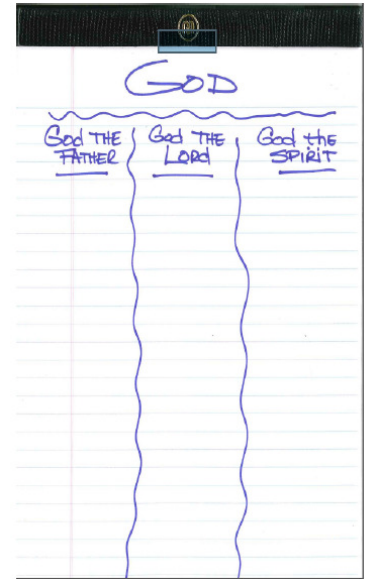
In the fourth sentence of the second chapter of the Bible, God begins to detail His work in order to focus on the creation of man and, in the process, He gives the name of the Person Who did the actual work. He calls Him "LORD", which is the Hebrew *Yahweh* (יהוה), or the Latin *Jehovah*, and it is translated as LORD (or LORD) in most English versions in all capital letters.

A Picture of God Begins to Develop



In just the first two chapters of the Bible, a picture of God begins to develop.

Three Names representing One God!



Job Descriptions of the Persons behind the Three Names of God

Throughout the remainder of the Bible, God develops the duties of the three Persons behind the three names. They all have the characteristics of God; however, as you read the entire Bible, you will notice that each Person has His own specific duties.

If while reading the Bible, you jot down the different things that each Person does, you will quickly see the distinct differences and will begin to see how God presents Himself in the form of three persons although He is only One God.

God the LORD

Beginning in Genesis 2:4 and through the rest of the Old Testament, the LORD God is mentioned in almost every book, story and chapter of the Bible. Let's look at a short list of His duties just in the book of Genesis.

1. He is the Creator in Genesis 2.
2. He talks with Adam and Eve in Genesis 3.
3. He speaks with Cain in Genesis 4.
4. He instructs and delivers Noah in Genesis 5 – 9.
5. He confounds the languages of the people and sends each family group to a new area to live in Genesis 10-11.
6. He calls and directs Abraham and provides for him and his family in Genesis 12-25.
7. He provides for Isaac and his family in Genesis 26-50.

What happen with the word “LORD” in the New Testament?

Most of the original Old Testament was written mainly in Hebrew. The New Testament was written in Greek. Therefore, the Old Testament word for LORD is not the same in the New Testament and could have caused a great problem when comparing the two testaments. However, 250 years before the birth of Jesus, the Jews painstakingly oversaw the translation of the Hebrew Bible into Greek. By the time of Jesus’ birth, the Jews read the Old Testament in both Hebrew and Greek. The Greek version was called the Septuagint. Bible experts have indicated when Jesus quoted from the Hebrew Old Testament and the Greek Old Testament. He used both. Therefore, the New Testament uses a different word for LORD from the one in the Old Testament.

In the New Testament, the word for “LORD” (all CAPS) always refers to Christ Jesus.

If Jesus is LORD in the New Testament, but He was not born until the beginning of the New Testament,

Who was the “LORD” in the Old Testament?

By comparing Old and New Testament Passages, we can identify the LORD of both testaments!

Old Testament		New Testament	
Isaiah foretells the one who will announce the LORD/Yahweh.	Isaiah 40:3 A voice is calling, "Clear the way for the LORD in the wilderness; Make smooth in the desert a highway for our God."	Mark proclaims that John the Baptist announced the arrival of the LORD Jesus/Yahweh.	Mark 1:2-3 As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, " BEHOLD, I SEND MY MESSENGER BEFORE YOUR FACE, WHO WILL PREPARE YOUR WAY; THE VOICE OF ONE CRYING IN THE WILDERNESS, 'MAKE READY THE WAY OF THE LORD, MAKE HIS PATHS STRAIGHT.'"
Joel explains how to obtain salvation through the LORD/Yahweh.	Joel 2:32 And it will come about that whoever calls on the name of the LORD Will be delivered; For on Mount Zion and in Jerusalem There will be those who escape, As the LORD has said, Even among the survivors whom the LORD calls.	Peter and Paul explain how to obtain salvation through the LORD Jesus/Yahweh.	Acts 2:21 IT SHALL BE, THAT EVERYONE WHO CALLS ON THE NAME OF THE LORD SHALL BE SAVED. Romans 10:12-13 For there is no distinction between Jew and Greek; for the same <i>Lord</i> is Lord of all, abounding in riches for all who call upon Him; for " WHOEVER WILL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED."

Old Testament

Isaiah is told that the LORD/Yahweh is the first and the last.

Isaiah 44:6-7 Thus says the LORD, the King of Israel And his Redeemer, the LORD of hosts: 'I am the first and I am the last, And there is no God besides Me. And who is like Me? Let him proclaim and declare it; Yes, let him recount it to Me in order, From the time that I established the ancient nation. And let them declare to them the things that are coming And the events that are going to take place.

The LORD explains how many will be blinded when He arrives to minister on earth as the LORD/Yahweh.

Isaiah 6:1-10 In the year of King Uzziah's death, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, lofty and exalted, with the train of His robe filling the temple...

Then I heard the voice of the Lord, saying, "Whom shall I send, and who will go for Us?" Then I said, "Here am I. Send me!" And He said, "Go, and tell this people: 'Keep on listening, but do not perceive; Keep on looking, but do not understand.' "Render the hearts of this people insensitive, Their ears dull, And their eyes dim, Lest they see with their eyes, Hear with their ears, Understand with their hearts, And return and be healed."

New Testament

Jesus identifies Himself as the LORD/Yahweh, the first and the last.

Revelation 1:17-18 And when I saw Him, I fell at His feet as a dead man. And He laid His right hand upon me, saying, "Do not be afraid; I am the first and the last, and the living One; and I was dead, and behold, I am alive forevermore, and I have the keys of death and of Hades.

The LORD explains how many were blind when He arrived to minister on earth as the LORD Jesus/Yahweh.

John 12:36-43 "While you have the light, believe in the light, in order that you may become sons of light." These things Jesus spoke, and He departed and hid Himself from them. But though He had performed so many signs before them, yet they were not believing in Him; that the word of Isaiah the prophet might be fulfilled, which he spoke, "LORD, WHO HAS BELIEVED OUR REPORT? AND TO WHOM HAS THE ARM OF THE LORD BEEN REVEALED?" For this cause they could not believe, for Isaiah said again, "HE HAS BLINDED THEIR EYES, AND HE HARDENED THEIR HEART; LEST THEY SEE WITH THEIR EYES, AND PERCEIVE WITH THEIR HEART, AND BE CONVERTED, AND I HEAL THEM." These things Isaiah said, because he saw His glory, and he spoke of Him.

The "LORD God" of the Old Testament is the same Person as the "LORD Jesus" of the New Testament!

If you need further proof – compare the following verses!

Old Testament
Psalms 45:4-7
Isaiah 53:6-7
Psalm 40:6-8
Psalm 132:11
Psalm 16:10

New Testament
Hebrews 1:8-9
1 Peter 2:25
Hebrews 10:4-7
Acts 2:29-32
Acts 2:29-32

Old Testament
Psalms 102:24-26
Isaiah 53:8-9
2 Samuel 7:16-17
Psalm 16:8-11
Psalm 68:18-19

New Testament
Hebrews 1:10
1 Peter 2:21-24
Acts 2:29-32
Acts 2:29-32
Ephesians 4:7-13

Many more verses prove that the LORD Jesus of the New Testament is the LORD God of the Old Testament. As such, the entire Bible record proves that Jesus is God.

What about God the Father?

God the FATHER

When Christians speak of the “Trinity”, the order is usually God the Father, God the Son and God the Holy Spirit. In that order, They are called the First, Second and Third Persons of the “Trinity”.

If God is also the Father, where in the Bible is that name first mentioned?

A very interesting question!

Surprisingly, God is not called the Father until David addresses Him that way in the Book of Psalms. Here are three of David’s psalms that address God as the Father.

<p>Psalm 2:7 "I will surely tell of the decree of the LORD: He said to Me, 'Thou art My Son, today I have begotten Thee. '"</p>	<p>Psalm 68:5 A father of the fatherless and a judge for the widows, is God in His holy habitation.</p>	<p>Psalm 89:26 "He will cry to Me, 'Thou art my Father, My God, and the rock of my salvation.' "</p>
--	--	---

A prophecy that implies that God is the Father and the LORD is Son

A statement that describes God as a Father to the orphans and widows

A prophecy that foretells that the LORD will cry out to the Father who is God

These verses are found in the Hebrew songbook in the middle of the Bible but they belong to the life of David and his life and history can be found in 1st Samuel. Isaiah and Jeremiah also mention God as the Father a few times, but it is not until the LORD Jesus begins His ministry that we gain a real insight into God as the Father.

Three of Jesus’ References to the Father

<p>Matthew 6:9 Pray, then, in this way: "Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be Thy name."</p>	<p>Matthew 11:25-26 At that time Jesus answered and said, "I praise Thee, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that Thou didst hide these things from the wise and intelligent and didst reveal them to babes. "Yes, Father, for thus it was well-pleasing in Thy sight.</p>	<p>Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, "All authority has been given to Me in heaven and on earth."</p>
--	--	---

Some of the Duties of God the Father

The Father **starts** the work of **redemption**.

John 3:16 "For **God so loved the world, that He gave** His only begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him should not perish, but have eternal life.

The Father **gives power** to His Son.

Matthew 28:18 And Jesus came up and spoke to them, saying, " **All authority has been given to Me** in heaven and on earth.

The Father **plans according** to His unlimited **wisdom**.

Romans 11:33-36 **Oh, the depth of the riches both of the wisdom and knowledge of God! How unsearchable are His judgments and unfathomable His ways!** For WHO HAS KNOWN THE MIND OF THE LORD, OR WHO BECAME HIS COUNSELOR? Or WHO HAS FIRST GIVEN TO HIM THAT IT MIGHT BE PAID BACK TO HIM AGAIN? For from Him and through Him and to Him are all things. To Him be the glory forever. Amen.

The Father **provides a spiritual birth**.

John 1:12-13 But as many as received Him, to them He gave the right **to become children of God**, even to those who believe in His name, who were **born not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God**.

The Father is called **the Father of Jesus Christ**.

Matthew 11:27 " **All things have been handed over to Me by My Father**; and no one knows the Son, except the Father; nor does anyone know the Father, except the Son, and anyone to whom the Son wills to reveal Him.

The Father is the **Father of the redeemed**.

John 1:11-12 He came to His own, and those who were His own did not receive Him. But as many as received Him, **to them He gave the right to become children of God**, even to those who believe in His name.

The Father **loves those who belong to Him**.

1 John 3:1 **See how great a love the Father has bestowed upon us, that we should be called children of God**; and such we are. For this reason the world does not know us, because it did not know Him.

The Father **allows people to come to Him through Jesus Christ**.

John 14:6 Jesus said to him, "I am the way, and the truth, and the life; **no one comes to the Father, but through Me**.

The Father **adopts** those who give their lives to Him.

Galatians 4:4-5 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that **we might receive the adoption as sons**.

The Father **expects** His **children to live in His will**.

Matthew 7:21 " Not everyone who says to Me, 'Lord, Lord,' will enter the kingdom of heaven; **but he who does the will of My Father who is in heaven**.

The Father **corrects the disobedient.**

Hebrews 12:7 **It is for discipline that you endure; God deals with you as with sons; for what son is there whom his father does not discipline?**

The LORD Jesus on the Throne with God the Father

The LORD Jesus is so precise in His record that in the last book of the New Testament, the book of Revelation, He describes His place in heaven with God the Father.

Revelation 3:21 **He who overcomes, I will grant him to sit down with Me on My throne, as I also overcame and sat down with My Father on His throne.**

What about God the Holy Spirit?

God the SPIRIT

The Spirit of God is mentioned in the second sentence of the Book of Genesis.

DUTY: To sustain the waters of the earth in their places as well as hold all of creation together in its place

Genesis 1:2 And the earth was formless and void, and darkness was over the surface of the deep; and the **Spirit of God** was moving over the surface of the waters.

Then, just before the flood the LORD mentions His Spirit to Noah.

DUTY: To strive with men to lead them to the LORD

Genesis 6:3 Then the LORD said, "**My Spirit** shall not strive with man forever, because he also is flesh; nevertheless his days shall be one hundred and twenty years."

In a word to Moses in the book of Exodus, the LORD explains that He has filled Bezalel with His Spirit.

DUTY: To fill men with skills and abilities for godly tasks

Exodus 31:3-5 "And I have filled him with the **Spirit of God** in wisdom, in understanding, in knowledge, and in all kinds of craftsmanship, to make artistic designs for work in gold, in silver, and in bronze, and in the cutting of stones for settings, and in the carving of wood, that he may work in all kinds of craftsmanship.

The rest of the duties of the Spirit of God are numerous.

To give power to humans	Judges 3:10
To teach humans what to say	1 Samuel 10:6
To direct the LORD's people	1 Kings 18:12
To give life	Job 33:4
To dwell with the LORD's people	Psalms 51:11
To bless the LORD's people	Isaiah 44:3
To be a covenant from the LORD	Isaiah 59:21
To place the LORD in womb of Mary	Matthew 1:18
To care for and guide the LORD Jesus while on earth	Matthew 4:1
To raise Jesus from the dead	Romans 8:11

And many more!

TRINITARIAN VS ONENESS

Oneness— Jesus Only Belief

Within Christianity, a group exists that believes that the Father, Son and Holy Spirit are all the same Person with a different name depending on how He shows Himself to humanity.

Oneness – Jesus Only people will say,

1. “when Jesus was praying in the garden, He was praying to Himself.”
2. “when Jesus was raised from the dead, He raised Himself.”
3. “as a man, I am a son of my father, a father to my children and a husband to my wife; therefore, before His incarnation, Jesus was the Father, while here on earth He was the Son and He is the Holy Spirit.”
4. “there is one God Who shows Himself to humanity in different modes, not persons.”

This belief struggles to be accurate because of the Biblical accounts that record the many testimonies concerning the three Persons of God.

Testimonies About the Three Persons of God in Scripture

God's Testimony

Genesis 1:26 Then God said, "Let Us make man in Our image, according to Our likeness"

Genesis 3:22-23 Then the LORD God said, "Behold, the man has become like one of Us, knowing good and evil... ."

Genesis 11:5-8 ... "Come, let Us go down and there confuse their language, that they may not understand one another's speech."

Jesus' Testimony

Matthew 28:19-20 Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe ...

John 14:16-17 And I will ask the Father, and He will give you another Helper, that He may be with you forever; that is the Spirit of truth, ...

John 15:26 When the Helper comes, whom I will send to you from the Father, that is the Spirit of truth, who proceeds from the Father, He will bear witness of Me, ...

John 16:13-15 But when He, the Spirit of truth, comes, He will guide you into all the truth; for He will not speak on His own initiative, but whatever He hears, He will speak; and He will disclose to you what is to come. He shall glorify Me; for He shall take of Mine, and shall disclose it to you. All things that the Father has are Mine; therefore I said, that He takes of Mine, and will disclose it to you.

Peter's Testimony

1 Peter 1:2 ... according to the foreknowledge of God the Father, by the sanctifying work of the Spirit, that you may obey Jesus Christ and be sprinkled with His blood: May grace and peace be yours in fullest measure.

Matthew's Testimony

Matthew 3:16-17 And after being baptized, Jesus went up immediately from the water; and behold, the heavens were opened, and he saw the Spirit of God descending as a dove, and coming upon Him, and behold, a voice out of the heavens, saying, "This is My beloved Son, in whom I am well-pleased."

Mark's Record of Peter's Testimony

Mark 1:9-11 And it came about in those days that Jesus came from Nazareth in Galilee, and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And immediately coming up out of the water, He saw the heavens opening, and the Spirit like a dove descending upon Him; and a voice came out of the heavens: "Thou art My beloved Son, in Thee I am well-pleased."

Luke's Record of Paul's Testimony

Luke 3:21-22 Now it came about when all the people were baptized, that Jesus also was baptized, and while He was praying, heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon Him in bodily form like a dove, and a voice came out of heaven, "Thou art My beloved Son, in Thee I am well-pleased."

Paul's Testimony

Galatians 4:4-6 But when the fullness of the time came, God sent forth His Son, born of a woman, born under the Law, in order that He might redeem those who were under the Law, that we might receive the adoption as sons. And because you are sons, God has sent forth the Spirit of His Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!"

2 Thessalonians 2:13-15 But we should always give thanks to God for you, brethren beloved by the Lord, because God has chosen you from the beginning for salvation through sanctification by the Spirit and faith in the truth. And it was for this He called you through our gospel, that you may gain the glory of our Lord Jesus Christ.

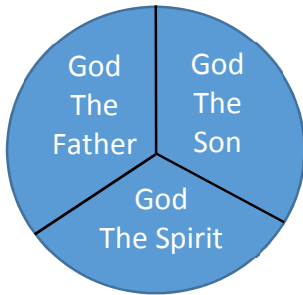
2 Corinthians 13:14 The **grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**, and the **love of God**, and the **fellowship of the Holy Spirit**, be with you all.

Ephesians 4:4-6 There is one body **and one Spirit**, just as also you were called in one hope of your calling; **one Lord**, one faith, one baptism, **one God and Father** of all who is over all and through all and in all.

Jude's Testimony

Jude 1:19-21 But you, beloved, building yourselves up on your most holy faith; **praying in the Holy Spirit**; **keep yourselves in the love of God**, **waiting anxiously for the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ** to eternal life.

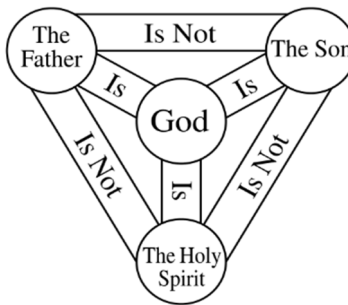
The Developed Picture of God



By taking into consideration all that the "LORD" revealed in the completed Bible, a fully developed picture of God comes to light. God is ONE GOD presented to humanity in three Persons Who have distinct duties.

Three names representing the three Persons of One God!

The Nature of God the Father, Son and Spirit
1. God is above and beyond all creation.
2. God is all-knowing.
3. God is all-seeing.
4. God is all-powerful.
5. God is eternal.
6. God is timeless.
7. God is unchangeable.
8. God is near.
9. God is personal.



The Temples of God the Father, Son and Spirit
<i>(at this time in history)</i>
God the Father In Heaven
God the Son With the Father In Heaven
God the Holy Spirit In the hearts of those who believe in the LORD as Savior

The Fact About Salvation

More Important than an Understanding of the Trinity

What must you do to have eternal life with the "LORD Jesus" and live with God forever? **For everyone in the world, it has always been the same!**

... for WHOEVER WILL CALL UPON THE NAME OF THE LORD WILL BE SAVED.

Joel 2:32, Acts 2:21 & Romans 10:13

The Invitation to Come to the LORD – Another Duty of the Holy Spirit

Revelation 22:17 And the Spirit and the bride say, "Come." And let the one who hears say, "Come." And let the one who is thirsty come; let the one who wishes take the water of life without cost.

Call upon the name of the LORD and you will be saved!